

Remarks

Applicant has carefully reviewed the Application in light of the Advisory Action dated August 21, 2000. To advance prosecution of this Application, Applicant has amended Claims 1-2, 8, 18-19, 24, and 29 and canceled Claims 10-17 and 20-22 without prejudice or disclaimer in order to further clarify the invention. Accordingly, Applicant makes no admission that the amendments and cancellations were made in response to prior art. Applicant submits that the claims are in condition for allowance and, hence, requests favorable action in this case.

Examiner Interview

Applicant thanks the Examiner for conducting a telephonic interview with their attorney on September 7, 2000. During this interview, the Applicant's attorney and the Examiner discussed the allowability of the claims with respect to U.S. Patent No. 4,532,544 issued to Federau ("Federau"). While no agreement was reached, the Examiner indicated that the concept of providing hemispherical coverage was probably not disclosed by Federau.

Conclusions

Applicant has made an earnest attempt to place this Application in condition for allowance. For the foregoing reasons, and for other reasons clearly apparent, Applicant respectfully requests full allowance of all pending claims. If the Examiner feels that a telephone conference or an interview would advance prosecution of this Application in any manner, the undersigned attorney for Applicant stands ready to conduct such a conference at the convenience of the Examiner.

Although no fees are believed to be required by this paper, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 02-0384 of BAKER BOTTS L.L.P.

Respectfully submitted,

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